

Sacramento Splittail

On August 17, 2001, the Service re-opened the comment period for the Final Rule listing the Sacramento splittail as threatened. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they will be incorporated into the public record as part of this re-opened comment period, and will be fully considered in the Final Rule. The Service is re-opening the comment period to invite comments and to obtain peer-review on the statistical analysis completed by the Service to re-analyze the abundance data available for the splittail. We are also inviting additional comments on the status of the species. Comments will be accepted until October 1, 2001. The Service anticipates publishing a final decision by January 31, 2002.

The projects have detected take of 90 splittail thus far in August.

Delta Smelt

The projects have not detected any take of delta smelt at the pumps in August.

Distribution:

(Data is preliminary) During the DFG Summer Townet survey, most smelt were found in the lower Sacramento River near Sherman Island:

Survey 1 77% in lower Sacramento River stations, 20% in lower San Joaquin River stations
Survey 2 88% in lower Sacramento River stations, almost none in lower San Joaquin stations
Have not processed survey 3 yet.
Smelt were found mostly in these areas, not many in Suisun Bay or in Eastern Delta

Population abundance relative to other years:

Delta Smelt indices:

Summer Townet	Fall Midwater
1995: 3.3	1995: 899
1996: 11.1	1996: 127
1997: 4.0	1997: 303
1998: 3.3	1998: 420
1999: 11.9	1999: 864
2000: ?	2000: 756
2001: 3.5 (prelim)	2001: N/A